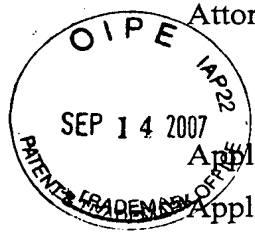


Application No. 10/550,824
In Reply to Office Action dated June 13, 1007
Attorney Docket No. 0388-052835



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/550,824
Applicants : Akira Hirano et al.
Filed : July 20, 2006
Title : FILTER FUNCTION-EQUIPPED OPTICAL SENSOR AND
: FLAME SENSOR
Art Unit : 2823 Confirmation No.: 1782
Examiner : Khiem D. Nguyen Customer No.: 28289

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

We, Akira Hirano, Satoshi Kamiyama, Hiroshi Amano and Isamu Akasaki, joint inventors of the above-identified patent application hereby declare as follows:

1. The Examiner is relying on Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-057111 to Hirano (hereinafter "the Hirano publication") in rejecting pending claims 10-25. The English-language translation of the abstract of this publication lists Hikari Hirano as one of the joint inventors of the Hirano application. The remaining inventors provided on the English-language translation of the abstract are Satoshi Kamiyama, Hiroshi Amano and Isamu Akasaki. Each of these inventors is also an inventor of the above-referenced patent application. A copy of the English-language translation of the abstract of the Hirano Application is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

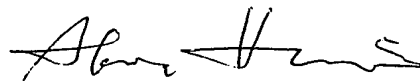
2. Hikari Hirano should have been listed as Akira Hirano on the English-language translation of the abstract of the Hirano Application. This error occurred due to a translation error. More particularly, there are several ways of translating the *kanji* character representing the first name of Hirano into English or Roman characters. Therefore, Hikari Hirano and Akira Hirano are the same person, and the above-identified patent application has the same inventive entity as the Hirano publication.

3. Accordingly, we, the four named inventors of the above-identified patent application, are also the joint inventors of the Hirano publication. Accordingly, the Hirano publication is not "by others".

4. We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

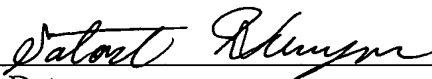
Respectfully submitted,

Akira Hirano



Date September 3, 2007

Satoshi Kamiyama



Date September 3, 2007

Hiroshi Amamo



Date September 3, 2007

Isamu Akasaki



Date September 3, 2007